

REMARKS

These remarks are in response to the Office Action dated June 1, 2006 ("Office Action") and are filed with a Request for Two Month Extension of Time, for which authorization is given to charge the extension fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0951. Authorization is also given to charge any necessary fees and credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-0951.

At the time of the Office Action, claims 3, 18 and 20-37 were pending. Claims 3, 20 and 21 were objected to for informalities. Claims 26, 30 and 35-37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 2,883,032 to Leaman. Also, claim 18 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Leaman in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,750,604 to Cook. Claims 3, 20-25 and 31-33 would be allowable if rewritten to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

I. Amendments to Address Informalities

Claims 3, 20 and 21 were objected to for informalities. The text requested by the Office Action has been inserted and withdrawal is respectfully requested.

II. Drawings

Applicant herewith submits replacement sheets that amend reference number 38 in Figure 2 to reference number 3B. No new matter is presented. The attached set of replacement sheets includes all figures, namely Figures 1-11, and each sheet is labeled as a "Replacement Sheet" in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121 (d). These drawings are of record.

III. Amendments to Accept Allowable Claims and Claim Fees

Although the Applicant respectfully disagrees with the rejections set forth in the Office Action, to expedite prosecution to an immediate allowance, the claims have been amended to accept the allowed claims. Accordingly, claims 3 and 37 have been combined with claim 36, claims 20 and 37 have been combined with claim 36 as new claim 38, claims 21 and 37 have been combined with claim 36 as new claim 39, claims 24 and 37 have been combined with claim 36 as new claim 40 and claims 31 and 30 have been combined with claim 36 as new claim 41.

After these amendments, there are a total of five (5) independent claims and eighteen (18) total claims. Thus, authorization is given to charge \$200.00 in additional claim fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0951 for two (2) independent claims in excess of three (3) independent claims.

IV. Conclusion

The application is believed to be in condition for immediate allowance. If any issues remain outstanding, Applicant invites the Examiner to call the undersigned if it is believed that a telephone interview would expedite the prosecution of the application to an allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

AKERMAN SENTERFITT

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